

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

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***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney  
Karen P. Hewitt***

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***For Immediate Release***

**NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY** - April 6, 2007

United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt announced that Bruno Bernard Calimas, a citizen of France, was sentenced in federal court in San Diego following his guilty plea to wire fraud. United States District Judge William Q. Hayes sentenced Calimas to serve 46 months in custody, to pay restitution to the victims in the amount of \$958,725.00, and to serve a three-year term of supervised release following his release from prison.

In connection with his guilty plea, Calimas admitted that he defrauded several investors of approximately \$1,300,000, through misrepresentations from December 2001 to February 2005. Calimas also admitted that he solicited funds from investors falsely stating that he was a successful commodities trader and that any investment in his corporation called "Lenya, International" would generate returns of at least 20 percent and up to 50 percent a year. In addition, Calimas falsely told investors that their investment was risk free and that they could have their invested funds back at any time. What Calimas did not tell investors was

that most of the funds he received were not actually invested, but used to support Calimas' personal lifestyle and to make payments to earlier investors.

This case was the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

**DEFENDANT**

Case Number: 06cr2177

Bruno Bernard Calimas

**SUMMARY OF CHARGES**

Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343 (Wire Fraud)

**INVESTIGATING AGENCY**

Federal Bureau of Investigation